

SPECIFICATION

EMC SHIELD FOR EXPANSION SLOTS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

[0001] The present invention relates to ElectroMagnetic Compatibility (EMC) shields, and particularly to an EMC shield for shielding expansion slots in a rear panel of a computer enclosure to reduce leakage of electromagnetic radiation.

2. Prior Art

[0002] In the enclosure of a typical personal computer, there are generally kinds of electronic components such as Central Processing Units (CPUs) and accelerated chips mounted therein. The electronic components may emit electromagnetic radiation as operating. Computer systems are manufactured with expansion slots to allow peripheral devices to be added to the systems, so most of the electromagnetic radiation will leak out through the expansion slots to potentially interfere with other electronic components.

[0003] Typically, a plurality of cover plates is attached to a rear panel and block the expansion slots thereon. However, as the internal circuitry of computers has advanced, the cover plates can be inadequate to block the electromagnetic radiation. The inadequacy of the cover plates is believed to be due to gaps between the cover plates and the computer enclosure.

[0004] To overcome these shortcomings, conventional EMC shields are disclosed in Taiwan Patent Application No. 84209619. Each EMC shield is discrete and is mounted on a corresponding strip between two expansion slots. Two holes are defined in each strip. Each EMC shield is made with size according to the corresponding strip. Two brims are formed toward each other from opposite sides of each EMC shield for packing the corresponding strip. Two hooks are formed on each EMC shield corresponding to the holes of the strip, and a plurality of elastic tabs is stamped from each EMC shield. A plurality of cover plates is secured to the expansion slots and presses the tabs of the EMC shields to prevent electromagnetic radiation from leaking out. However, the discrete strips must be mounted to the strips one by one, which is cumbersome and time-consuming.

[0005] A typical computer enclosure EMC shield 10', as shown in FIG. 5, is integrally made by stamping a rectangular metal sheet. A bent portion 20' extends perpendicularly from one end of the EMC shield 10'. A plurality of fixing holes 18' is defined in the bent portion 20' of the EMC shield 10'. The EMC shield 10' defines a plurality of elongated openings 12' and forms a plurality of beams 14' alternating with the opening 12'. A plurality of tabs 16' is stamped from the beams 14'. In pre-assembly, screws must be used to fasten the EMC shield 10' to a rear panel of the computer enclosure via the fixing holes 18', which is cumbersome and time-consuming. This will lower the assembly efficiency.

[0006] Thus, an improved EMC shield which overcomes the above-mentioned problems is desired.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0007] Correspondingly, an object of the present invention is to provide an EMC shield that can reduce leakage of electromagnetic radiation through a computer enclosure.

[0008] Another object of the present invention is to provide an EMC shield that is easy to be assembled.

[0009] To achieve the above-mentioned objects, an EMC shield attachable to a rear panel of a computer enclosure defines a number of elongated openings and forms a number of bars alternating with the openings. The EMC shield includes at least one hook folded back from the EMC shield at one side of at least one opening for engaging with the rear panel, a number of arch-shaped strips protruding outwardly and forwardly on said bars, and a number of tabs protruding outwardly and rearwardly on said bars alternating with the strips.

[0010] Other objects, advantages and novel features of the present invention will be drawn from the following detailed description of a preferred embodiment of the present invention with the attached drawings, in which:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0011] FIG. 1 is an exploded isometric view of an EMC shield in accordance with the preferred embodiment of the present invention, together with a plurality of

cover plates and a rear panel of a computer enclosure;

[0012] FIG. 2 is an isometric view of the EMC shield of FIG. 1, but viewed from another aspect;

[0013] FIG. 3 is an pre-assembled view of FIG. 1, without coverage of the cover plates;

[0014] FIG. 4 is an assembled view of FIG. 1; and

[0015] FIG. 5 is an isometric view of a conventional EMC shield of a computer enclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0016] Referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, an EMC shield 10 for reducing leakage of electromagnetic radiation through a computer enclosure, in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention, is mounted between a rear panel 40 and a plurality of cover plates 60.

[0017] The rear panel 40 defines a plurality of expansion slots 42 and forms a plurality of beams 44 alternating with the expansion slots 42. A first bent portion 46 is perpendicularly formed rearwardly from one common end of the beams 44. The expansion slots 42 extend to one part of the first bent portion 46. Two fixing protrusions 48 protrude outwardly from the first bent portion 46 respectively between two expansion slots 42.

[0018] The EMC shield 10 is integrally formed by a rectangular metal sheet. A

second bent portion 26 perpendicularly extends from one side of the EMC shield 10. The EMC shield 10 forms a plurality of bars 14 and defines a plurality of elongated openings 12 alternating with the bars 14. The openings 12 extend to one part of the second bent portion 26. A plurality pairs of symmetric arch-shaped strips 16 protrudes slantingly forwardly from both edges of each bar 14. A plurality pairs symmetric of tabs 18 protrudes slantingly rearwardly from both edges of each bar 14 alternating with the arch-shaped strips 16. A plurality of flakes 22 protrudes slantingly rearwardly from the other side of the EMC shield 10 in some openings 12. Two pairs of hooks 20 are folded back from the EMC shield 10 at opposite sides of the rest openings 12. Two fixing holes 24 are defined in the second bent portion 26 corresponding to the fixing portions 48 of the rear panel 40.

[0019] Referring also to FIGS. 3 and 4, in pre-assembly, the EMC shield 10 is attached to the rear panel 40 with the hooks 20 of said other side of the EMC shield 10 engaging with the rear panel 40 at a corresponding common side of the expansion slots 42. Push the second bent portion 26 of the EMC shield 10 rearwardly until the hooks 20 on the second bent portion 26 engage with a corresponding common side of the expansion slots 42. Meanwhile, the fixing protrusions 48 of the rear panel 40 are fixed in the fixing holes 24 of the EMC shield 10, thereby preventing the EMC shield 10 from moving forwardly. The tabs 18 resiliently abut against the beams 44 of the rear panel 40 and the flakes 22 resiliently abut against the rear panel 40. In full assembly, the cover plates 60 are secured to the rear panel 40 and cover the corresponding expansion slots 42. The cover plates 40 depress the strips 16 of the EMC shield 10 so as to intimately

contact the strips 16. The cover plates 40 also urge the EMC shield 10 together with the tabs 18 and the flakes 22 to intimately contact the rear panel 40. Thus, the EMC shield 10 reduces leakage of electromagnetic radiation through the expansion slots 42.

[0020] It is to be understood, however, that even though numerous characteristics and advantages of the present invention have been set forth in the foregoing description, together with details of the structure and function of the invention, the disclosure is illustrative only, and changes may be made in detail, especially in matters of shape, size, and arrangement of parts within the principles of the invention to the full extent indicated by the broad general meaning of the terms in which the appended claims are expressed.